

REMARKS

Applicants have amended claim 6 and added new claims 12 - 17. Thus, claims 6 - 17 are presented for examination. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Response to Objections to the Abstract:

Examiner has objected to the abstract because of the inclusion of the word "said." Applicants have amended the abstract to remove the word "said." Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the abstract.

Response to Objections to the Drawings:

Examiner has objected to Figures 1 and 2 because the boxes in the figures are not labeled. Applicants have amended figures to include labeling of the boxes. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the figures.

Response to objections to the Claims:

Examiner has objected to claims 6 – 11 for a lack of antecedent basis for the limitation of "the technical systems." Applicants have amended claim 6 to correct the lack of antecedent basis. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the claims.

Response to rejections under Section 102:

Claims 6 - 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), the Examiner contending that these claims are anticipated by Hartikainen et al. (USPN 6,298,377). The Examiner apparently reads Hartikainen as disclosing the remote acquisition system as claimed by Applicants.

Applicants have amended claim 6 to recite the limitation of memory unit connected to the acquisition unit and the local diagnostics unit (see e.g. Applicants' Figure 1). Hartikainen does not disclose or suggest a unit connected to the acquisition unit and the local diagnostics unit. Rather, Hartikainen discloses an acquisition system having a memory unit connected to an acquisition unit only (see Hartikainen Figure 2). Applicants arrangement of the memory unit in relation to the acquisition unit and the diagnostics unit is not a matter of mere design choice

because both the current measurement data of the power stations received by the acquisition unit, and historical measurement data from the power stations from further back in the past that is saved in the memory unit can be processed for diagnostics purposes (see e.g. Applicants' specification, page 12 lines 21 - 28).

In view of the above, independent claim 6 is patentable. Dependent claims 7 – 11 are also patentable at least based on their dependency from claim 6, as well as based on their own merit.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the Section 102 rejection.

Discussion of New Claims 12 - 17:

New claims 12 - 17 further define the scope of the invention, as described in the specification and drawings and are patentable based on their dependency from the independent claims as well as on their own merit. For example, claim 12 recites the a virtual diagnostics system configured to access and diagnose a plurality of remote stationary power stations, comprising, a server application for each power station for transferring collected measurement data via an internet, a memory unit comprising an acquisition unit and a server unit and connected to the internet and receives measurement data from each power station, a diagnostics unit for classification of the measurement data and connected to the internet, and a client computer having an internet browser installed, having a communication link to the internet, and able to link to the server unit, wherein the measurement data saved in the memory unit can be retrieved by the client computer (see e.g, Applicants' specification, page 15 line 5 through page 16 line 35). Applicant respectfully submits that claims 12 - 17 are patentable and respectfully request allowance of claims 6 - 17.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the rejections and timely pass the application to allowance. Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this paper. The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper, including

Serial No. 10/501,725

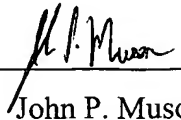
Atty. Doc. No. 2002P02987WOUS

the fees specified in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 (c), 1.17(a)(1) and 1.20(d) for total independent claims in excess of 3, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 10/25/05

By: _____



John P. Musone

Registration No. 44,961

(407) 736-6449

Siemens Corporation
Intellectual Property Department
170 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, New Jersey 08830